

22 September 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 22 September 1980

The Director chaired the meeting. [ ]

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The Director noted the likelihood of increased tempo this week prior to Congress adjournment. He advised that he had reviewed the material prepared for his 25 September briefing of the Joint Economic Committee, found it satisfactory, and spoke of plans to brief the President on 24 September on portions thereof and some coverage of Poland as well as the Saudis' decisions at OPEC. Later in the meeting, Hitz said they are still checking to see if the time is firm. [ ]

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The Director, observing that elections are only six weeks away, expressed concern that we pay special attention to specific hot spots; namely, Iran, Iraq/Iran hostilities, Poland, Afghanistan, and the Caribbean. With regard to Poland, the Director observed that the White House was questioning whether or not our Alert Memorandum was serious or an effort to cover all eventualities. With regard to the Caribbean, the Director requested careful analysis of reports that the Sandinistas may have been behind the assassination of Somoza. (Action: NFAC) [ ]

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The Director expressed appreciation for [ ] work in developing a commentary on the Jack Anderson article (attached) re Soviet intelligence cables. He expressed concern that it received such wide distribution and noted that had time permitted he would have had it retyped to delete some of the more sensitive portions. Clarke advised that the distribution was internal and to those who had a need to know. Clarke added that in his judgment the most severe compromise [ ]

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The Director noted there was some White House concern over the possibility that New York Times correspondent Phil Taubman would do a wrap-up story [ ]

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TOP SECRET

The Director related there would be a PRC meeting on Poland sometime this week. Clarke said the necessary charts and updates would be on hand. Clarke observed that if the Director continues to be questioned about the seriousness of our Alert Memorandum re Poland he might mention that on 2 August 1968 a paper on the unfolding situation in Czechoslovakia was prepared and issued but not fully coordinated within the Community and on 21 August, the then DCI was grateful that he had pointed to the seriousness of the situation. [ ]

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The Director highlighted a report just handed to him that Iraqi MIGs had hit seven (7) airports in Iran. [ ]

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McMahon highlighted the following:

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--Expressed concern with ICA's plans to distribute Volume II, Dirty Works, throughout Africa in an effort to alert their officers. He added that work is underway to ask them not to distribute the book but simply advise those named erroneously as CIA operatives. [ ]

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[ ] reported that he and the Comptroller's office had met with the OMB examiner on Friday and the latter invited us to write to the D/OMB and seek relief from the hiring freeze. A brief discussion followed and [ ] noted a letter was being drafted. [ ]

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[ ] called attention to William Safire's article (attached) alleging that the Director had asked Dr. Brzezinski to return a sensitive document on the Billy Carter affair. The Director noted the item was essentially correct. [ ]

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[ ] noted advice that [ ] is working on an article forecasting that by 1985 the Soviets will have strategic superiority and appears to be drawing on some NIEs. [ ]

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[ ]

Clarke spoke of work underway to identify the appearance of a large Soviet submarine. [ ]

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Hitz advised that our Identities Legislation will go to the Senate floor tomorrow and to the House floor on Thursday. He also advised that the Conference Report on the FY 1981 Authorization Bill will be reported to the floor on Wednesday. In response to the Director's query re how to handle new starts, Mr. Carlucci observed that there has always been some ambiguity re the definition of same and [ ] said there are no new starts that the continuing resolution route would obviate. [ ]

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[ ]

Mr. Carlucci asked [ ] to obtain a full text of the Vice President's Kansas City speech. (Action: D/PA) [ ]

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[ ]

B. C. Evans

Attachments

TOP SECRET

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# RADIO TV REPORTS, INC.

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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM ABC World News Tonight STATION WJLA TV  
ABC Network

DATE September 18, 1980 7:00 PM CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT Possible Soviet SALT Violation

FRANK REYNOLDS: ABC News Pentagon correspondent John McWethy has a report about another possible Soviet violation of another Soviet-American agreement.

JOHN MCWETHY: Allegations were made today to ABC News that the Soviet Union has grossly violated terms of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty -- SALT II, a document that was signed by President Carter.

The charges were made by Congressman Robin Beard, a member of the House Armed Services Committee. Beard is a Republican and a strong supporter of Ronald Reagan.

REPRESENTATIVE ROBIN BEARD: My sources tell me that the Soviet Union recently, in the last several weeks, participated in an exercise rehearsing their rapid reloading techniques and capabilities for the SS-18 missile.

This is a violation of the intent of SALT I, which states that rapid reloading of missiles will be prohibited. There's very specific language in SALT II stating that this will be disallowed.

MCWETHY: Sources within the government confirm that the Soviets did run such an exercise, but questioned whether it violates the treaty. The SALT II Treaty specifically forbids either side from bringing spare missiles to launch sites. It also prohibits from developing, testing, or deploying systems for rapid reloading of ICBM launchers.

The reason, to prevent both countries from being able to fire one round of nuclear missiles and to then

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be able to quickly reload those launchers for a second round of firing.

Beard further charges that 25 to 40 ICBMs were moved from a central storage area to an unnamed launch site as part of this exercise. Government sources flatly deny this ever happened.

The Carter Administration's response to all of this is "accurate information about Soviet activities in this field is among the most sensitive information in possession of our government. To compromise such information is a reckless act, with possible grave consequences for national security."

These latest disclosures come at a time when the Pentagon, the White House, and intelligence community have been wracked by dozens of leaks of highly classified defense information. The leak has become a major political weapon in this presidential campaign.

ESSAY

# Needed: A Special Prosecutor

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Carterites have set up a straw-man question to help them denigrate the Billygate probe: Did the President's brother influence our Libyan policy? That has never been the real issue — President Carter, if re-elected, would need no urging to tilt Arab and recognize the P.L.O. The central question is: Did the Carter Administration permit the President's brother to sell illegally his apparent influence?

To be more specific:

1. Did the President's brother get White House help in his profiteering on the hostage crisis?

Yes. Even the most see-know-evil Carter partisans admit that Billy Carter used his ability to set up a White House meeting with his Libyan clients, ostensibly about the hostages, for his personal profit.

The White House claims that Billy Carter merely set up a "semi-social" meeting with Dr. Brzezinski and a Libyan representative on Nov. 27 of last year. But belatedly acquired telephone logs show how closely Billy was clued in to his Libyan client's visit to his brother in the Oval Office on Dec. 6.

That December morning at 10:08, Billy called the Libyan Embassy. At 10:08, Billy called Appointments Secretary Philip Wise at the White House. (Wise, who has the notation "10:10 Billy" on his telephone log, professes no recollection of the call.) At 10:30, Dr. Brzezinski called the Libyan Embassy to invite Ali el Houdari to the White House immediately. At 10:38, Billy called Jack McGregor, the man who was setting up his multi-million dollar deal between Charter Oil and the Libyans. At 10:39, Billy called the Libyan Embassy again. From 11:02 to 11:12, the Libyan meets with President Carter. At 2:22 P.M., Billy calls the Libyans again, and makes three follow-up calls to Charter Oil.

That was the meeting that the White House claims Billy Carter had nothing to do with. A couple of weeks later, Billy Carter summoned a White House car, impressively chauffeured by a uniformed member of the U.S. Armed Forces, to take him to the Libyan Embassy. He there dunned Libya for money; that state gratefully turned over \$20,000 within a week. A month later, Billy lied to Government investigators about his hostage profiteering.

2. When the President learned of his brother's unlawful activities from an Intelligence report in April, did he attempt to enforce the law?

He did not. The President claims that he merely approved of Dr. Brzezinski's call to Billy warning of embarrassment, and did nothing for three months as his brother's deal moved forward. Dr. Brzezinski — who, lest we forget, glibly lied to me about his conversations with Billy about Libya before the Senate hearings — offers the excuse that President Carter was very busy those days.

3. Did Dr. Brzezinski's April 1 call to Billy Carter — revealing Intelligence too secret to be given the F.B.I. — alert the President's brother and the Libyans to secret surveillance?

Yes. "He got no information from me that he didn't know," Dr. Brzezinski explains. "He knew what he was doing." That is pure deception; as Senator Charles Mathias observed sweetly, "He didn't know that anybody else knew that he was doing it."

Within four minutes of Dr. Brzezinski's revelation to Billy that the unlawful deal was being monitored, the President's brother was on the phone to oil lobbyist McGregor — the same man who was given an audience with President Carter for picture-taking purposes, and who testified that he told the President how badly Billy needed money. The morning after Brzezinski's alert, Billy was on the phone to his associates in Tripoli.

As predicted here, Dr. Brzezinski has had to change his story under oath about when he briefed the President on Billy's oil deal. In order to back up the President's assertion about learning of Zbig's call after the fact, the date has been moved to April 2; we are now asked to believe that this hot family news was withheld from the President, down the hall, for 36 hours.

The Director of Central Intelligence asked Dr. Brzezinski to return the incriminating document: Instead, Zbig burned it.

4. Was Justice obstructed by a White House tipoff to Billy Carter about a grand jury in June?

We do not yet know. The man whose office is closest to the President's — Philip Wise, who once worked with Billy in the warehouse — stonewalled with so many "I don't recall" and "no recollections" that one Democratic senator called his testimony "outrageous." The young man who ducked repeated F.B.I. calls denies everything specific and forgets everything embarrassing: he is not so stupid as he would have us believe.

What's going to break this case? Answer: one witness cooperating under prosecutorial duress. After the Senate phase is finished, the sworn testimony, with its many conflicts — will be sent to Justice. A special prosecutor will be required, not only to examine potential perjury but to review the expected internal whitewash of the Attorney General by Michael Shaheen.

The break in this case will come long after the election. At that time, voters will be asking: Why were we told that this was "much ado about nothing?" Where were the watchmen in the night?